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EXPRESS MAIL NO. EL 501 638 172 US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: Y. MUMFORD

Application No.: 09/436,741

Group Art Unit: 3734

Filed: November 9, 1999

Examiner: Unassigned

For: PERMANENT LOCKING MECHANISM
FOR SHARP-INSTRUMENT SAFETY
GUARD

Attorney Docket NO. 9755-009

APPROVED
JOHN E. KITTLE
DIRECTOR
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3700 & 2800
4/6/01

REQUEST FOR WITHDRAWAL AS ATTORNEY

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Attn. Box PSD
Washington, D.C. 20231

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Sir:

1. I, an attorney signing below, respectfully request that the attorneys of the law firm of Pennie & Edmonds LLP, who have appeared in the above-identified patent application, including the undersigned, be permitted to withdraw from all further responsibility in this case in accordance with 37 CFR 1.36. The undersigned attorney has authorization and submits this request on behalf of the attorneys of Pennie & Edmonds LLP who have appeared in connection with the above-identified matter. The statements presented below are based either upon personal knowledge or upon information and belief.

2. The basis for the request for withdrawal is 37 CFR 10.40(c) for the reasons, upon information and belief, that Pennie & Edmonds LLP has not received full payment in

connection with bills for work performed for the applicants in relation to trademark work as well as the subject matter of this and other applications. Such amount in issue as of about January 24, 2001 was acknowledged by applicants' new counsel as at least in the amount of over \$50,000.00. A copy of correspondence from applicants' new counsel dated January 24, 2001 to Pennie & Edmonds' collection agent is enclosed.

3. The above-identified application was filed on November 9, 1999 and presently, upon information and belief, nothing is pending.

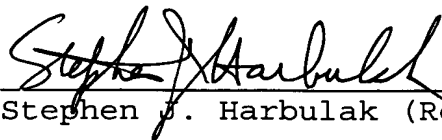
4. Accordingly, in view of the circumstances described herein above, Pennie & Edmonds LLP is forced to request that its attorneys of record in the above matter be permitted to withdraw from representation with regard to this patent application.

5. In accordance with 37 CFR 10.40(a), a copy of this request, including attachments, is being sent to the applicants' new counsel identified in the enclosed correspondence of January 24, 2001.

6. This request is enclosed in triplicate for the convenience of the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office.

Respectfully submitted

Date: March 29, 2001

 29,166
Stephen J. Harbulak (Reg. No.)

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Enclosure